

**WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

*Purpose of checklist:*

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

*Instructions for applicants:*

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

*Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:*

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

**A. BACKGROUND**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

**WHISTLER**

2. Name of applicant: **SDS Lumber Company**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

**Contact Person: Frank Backus**

**POB 266**

**Bingen, WA 98605**

4. Date checklist prepared: **10.26.2009**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **WADNR**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

**Project to begin and be completed in Summer of 2010.**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

**A portion of this project area may be used in conjunction with the Whistling Ridge Energy Project.**

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

DRAFT  
Habitat  
MAPS  
BA

White Salmon SOSEA BA  
site #'s and

Northern Spotted Owl Habitat Maps (WADNR-Forest Practices).

According to draft habitat maps  
they are both 40% + habitat, above thresholds

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

11/2/09

A portion of the area is currently under review by the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC).

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

#### Washington State Forest Practice Application.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

This project consists of timber harvesting and road construction. Approximately 600 feet of new road will be constructed, and 33 acres of timber will be harvested with this project.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Legal Description: 3N, 10E, Sections 6.

The project area is approximately 6 miles to the northwest of the intersection of Little Buck Creek Rd and Cook-Underwood.

#### B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

##### 1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other . . . . .

Mountainous.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Approximately 50%.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

Timberhead gravelly loam.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

**None observed.**

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

**None.**

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

**Due to the lack of surface water within the proposal and the relatively gentle terrain of the area, the potential for soil erosion is expected to be low.**

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

**None.**

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

**None.**

## **2. Air**

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

**This proposal will involve vehicle emissions from logging, and hauling equipment; dust from harvest and log hauling activities. Such emissions should result in minimal impact to air quality. If burning slash piles occurs, it will adhere to the State's Smoke Management Program.**

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

**No.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

**Road watering may occur to help reduce dust.**

3. Water

a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

No.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

None.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No.

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No.

b. Ground:

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

None.

## c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

**Snowmelt and rain are the main sources of water runoff. Water is expected to disperse and be absorbed by soil.**

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

**Waste material is not expected to enter ground or surface waters.**

## d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

**None.**

## 4. Plants

## a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

deciduous tree: maple, aspen, other:

evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

Shrubs ocean spray, hazel, vine maple

grass

pasture

crop or grain

wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

other types of vegetation

## b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

**Approximately 1 MMBF of timber will be removed with this project.**

## c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

**None.**

## d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

**None.**

## 5. Animals

## a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Spotted Owl # \_\_\_\_\_ site center is approximately 1.7 miles away. A portion of the proposal (20 acres) is within owl circle # \_\_\_\_\_

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

No.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

All State Wildlife and Green Recruitment Tree Retention rules have been met. According to Washington State Forest Practices, Owl Circle # \_\_\_\_\_ is currently above habitat threshold. This proposal would not bring required habitat below threshold.

6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

None.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None.

## 7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

Pile burning will occur to eliminate slash..

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Pile burning will occur when atmospheric conditions are favorable (stable atmosphere, low/no wind).

- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

**None known.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

**None.**

**14. Transportation**

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

**Little Buck Creek Rd will be used as part of the haul route for this proposal.**

- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

**No.**

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

**None.**

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

**The proposal will require new and existing forest roads for the purposes of timber harvest.**

- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

**No.**

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

**Approximately 20 log truck loads per day for about a month.**

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

**None.**

15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None.

16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

None.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

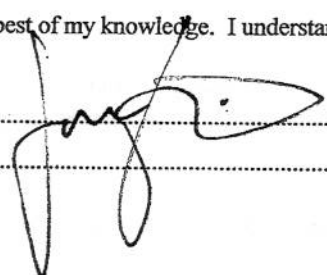
None.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: SAM GRIMM

Date Submitted: ~~10/27/09~~ 10/27/09



Reviewed by: Bart M Ausland, Forest Practice Coordinator  
Bart M Ausland 11/2/09